

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend claims 1-8 as follows:

1. (currently amended): A method of preventing a flooding attack on a network server in which a large number of connectionless datagrams are received for queuing to a port ~~number~~ on the network server, comprising:

determining, in response to the arrival of a connectionless datagram from a host for a port ~~number~~ on the network server, if the number of connectionless datagrams already queued to the port ~~number~~ from the host exceeds a prescribed threshold; ~~and, if so,~~

discarding the datagram, if the number of connectionless datagram already queued to the port from the host exceeds the prescribed threshold; and

queuing the connectionless datagram to a queue slot of the port, if the number of connectionless datagram already queued to the port from the host does not exceed the prescribed threshold.

2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the determining if the number of datagrams already queued to the port ~~number~~ from the host exceeds a prescribed threshold further comprises:

calculating the prescribed threshold by multiplying a percentage P by the number of available queue slots for the port ~~number~~.

3. (currently amended): Apparatus for preventing a flooding attack on a network server in which a large number of datagrams are received for queuing to a port number on the server, comprising:

means for determining, in response to a datagram from a host for a the port number on the network server, if the number of datagrams queued on the port by the host exceeds a prescribed threshold; ~~and~~

means responsive to the determining means for discarding the datagram, if the number of datagrams queued on the port by the host exceeds the prescribed threshold; and

means for queuing the datagram to a queue slot of the port, if the number of datagrams queued on the port by the host does not exceed the prescribed threshold.

4. (currently amended): The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 3 wherein the means for determining if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the host exceeds a prescribed threshold further comprises:

means for calculating the prescribed threshold by multiplying a percentage P by ~~the~~ a number of available queue slots for the port ~~number~~.

5. (currently amended): A storage media containing program code-
segments that is operable by a computer for preventing a flooding attack on a network server in which a large number of datagrams are received for queuing to a port number on the network server, the program code including instructions for causing the computer to execute the steps of comprising:

~~a first code segment activated in response to a datagram from a host for a port number on the server for determining if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the host exceeds a prescribed threshold, in response to a datagram from a host for the port on the network server; and~~

~~a second code segment responsive to the first code segment for discarding the datagram, if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the S host exceeds the prescribed threshold; and~~

~~queuing the datagram to a queue slot of the port, if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the S host does not exceed the prescribed threshold.~~

6. (currently amended): The storage media of claim 5 ~~wherein the first code segment further comprising the step of:~~

~~a third code segment for calculating the prescribed threshold by multiplying a percentage P by the a number of available queue slots for the port number.~~

7. (currently amended): A carrier wave containing program code segments ~~that is operable by a network server for preventing a flooding attack on a the network server in which a large number of datagrams are received for queuing to a port number on the server, the program code including instructions for causing the network server to execute the steps of comprising:~~

~~a first code segment activated in response to a datagram from a host for queuing to a port number on the server for determining, in response to receipt of a datagram~~

from the host for queuing to the port on the network server, if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the a host exceeds a prescribed threshold; and

a second code segment responsive to the first code segment for discarding the datagram, if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the host exceeds the prescribed threshold; and

queueing the datagram to the port, if the number of datagrams already queued to the port from the host does not exceed the prescribed threshold.

8. (currently amended): The carrier wave of claim 7 wherein ~~the first code segment~~ the program code further includes instructions for causing the network server to execute the step of further comprises:

~~a third code segment for calculating the prescribed threshold by multiplying a percentage P by the a number of available queue slots for the port number.~~

[Please add the following new claims:]

9. (new): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
configuring a maximum number of connectionless datagrams allowed to be queued at the port.

10. (new): The method of claim 9 wherein the configuring step further includes configuring a controlling percentage of available queue slots remaining for the port; and

wherein the prescribed threshold is based on the controlling percentage of available queue slots remaining for the port.

11. (new): The method of claim 1 wherein the port comprises a plurality of queue slots, the method further comprising:

maintaining a number of available queue slots of the plurality of queue slots for the port.

12. (new): The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising:

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a means for configuring a maximum number of connectionless datagrams allowed to be queued at the port.

13. (new): The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the means for configuring further comprises configuring a controlling percentage of available queue slots remaining for the port.

14. (new): The storage media of claim 5 wherein the computer is the network server.
